



WISCONSIN FARM REPORTER

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This Farm Reporter contains the results from the following surveys. Thanks for your help!

Milk Production Report
Monthly Cold Storage report
March Prices Received

March Milk Production

In March 2010, Wisconsin milk production rose 6 percent to total 2.24 billion pounds. Milk per cow averaged 1,775 pounds, up 100 pounds from last year, and a record high milk per cow. There were 1.26 million milk cows in the state during March, the same as last month and 4,000 more than a year ago. As of April 1, 2010, Wisconsin had 12,836 licensed milk cow herds, down 36 from last month and down 458 from April 2009.

Total milk production in the 23 major states totaled 15.4 billion pounds in March. This was an increase of less than 1 percent from the previous year. Production per cow rose to 1,846 pounds, 51 pounds more than last March. The number of milk cows in the major states totaled 8.32 million head, up 1,000 from last month, but down 162,000 from last year.

Thirteen of the 23 major milk producing states had higher milk production when compared with last March, nine states had lower production, and one state, Utah, was unchanged. Washington had 10,000 more cows than last year, leading to an 8 percent rise in milk production. They were followed by Wisconsin, with 6 percent growth, and Michigan and Minnesota, both with 4 percent growth. Several states had large drops in production. Missouri and Colorado both had an 8 percent drop in production, while both Florida and Arizona production fell by 7 percent.

March Milk Production

State	Milk cows 1/		Rate per cow 2/		Production 2/		Production % chnge 2010/09
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	
	Thousand head		Pounds		Million pounds		Percent
WI	1,256	1,260	1,675	1,775	2,104	2,237	+6
CA	1,821	1,758	1,925	1,980	3,505	3,481	-1
ID	550	554	1,840	1,880	1,012	1,042	+3
MI	355	356	1,895	1,975	673	703	+4
MN	468	470	1,640	1,695	768	797	+4
NM	333	321	2,110	2,105	703	676	-4
NY	623	610	1,700	1,740	1,059	1,061	n.c.
PA	550	540	1,670	1,730	919	934	+2
TX	430	410	1,850	1,890	796	775	-3

1/Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/Excludes milk sucked by calves. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

Marketings, Income, and Value of Milk Production: Wisconsin, 2005-2009

Year	Combined marketings of milk and cream				Used for milk, cream, and butter by producers		Gross producer income 1/	Value of milk produced 2/
	Milk Utilized	Average returns		Cash receipts from marketings	Milk Utilized	Value		
		Per cwt. milk	Per lb. milkfat					
	Million lbs.	Dollars		1,000 dollars	Million lbs.	1,000 dollars		
2005	22,614	15.60	4.20	3,527,784	20	3,120	3,530,904	3,567,096
2006	23,125	13.30	3.58	3,075,625	20	2,660	3,078,285	3,111,934
2007	23,805	19.30	5.22	4,594,365	20	3,860	4,598,225	4,647,440
2008	24,188	18.90	5.08	4,571,532	20	3,780	4,575,312	4,625,208
2009	24,967	13.10	3.54	3,270,677	20	2,620	3,273,297	3,306,309

1/Cash receipts from marketings of milk and cream plus value of milk used for home consumption. 2/Includes value of milk fed to calves.

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

April Milk Prices

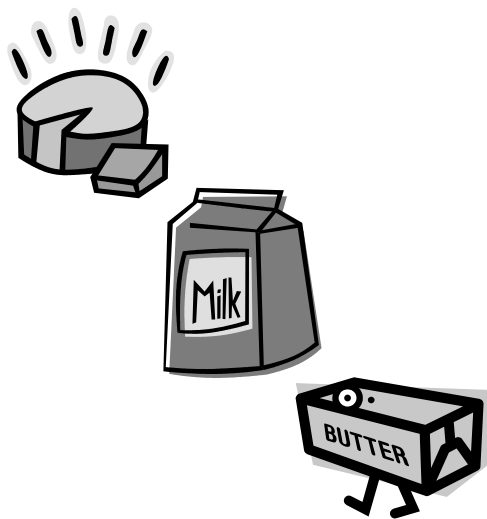
Wisconsin farmers received an average price of \$14.70 per hundredweight (cwt.) for their milk in March 2010, \$2.50 more than in March 2009. The April price is expected to decrease 10 cents to \$14.60 per cwt.

The U.S. milk price for April is predicted to decrease 20 cents for the month, to \$14.60 per cwt. All states except California, Idaho, and Minnesota are expecting a decline in price from March to April. Idaho and Minnesota are both expecting increases of 40 cents per cwt., while California is predicting a rise of 28 cents.

The Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) 40-pound block price closed at \$1.3875 per pound on April 30, while barrels were \$1.3800 per pound. The CME butter price was \$1.6200 per pound.

For the week ending April 24, 2010, the National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. weekly 40-pound block cheese price averaged \$1.4384 per pound and 500 pound barrels adjusted to 38 percent moisture averaged \$1.4209 per pound. The U.S. butter price was \$1.5153 per pound.

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Class III price for April is \$12.92 per cwt.



Milk Prices 1/

Selected states	March 2009		March 2010		April 2010	
	Price per cwt.	Fat Test	Price per cwt.	Fat Test	Price per cwt.	Fat Test
	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Percent
Milk for all uses						
WI	12.20	3.74	14.70	3.68	14.60	3.65
CA	10.53	3.68	13.32	3.68	13.60	3.65
ID	11.10	3.63	13.10	3.64	13.50	3.62
MI	12.00	3.68	15.70	3.62	15.20	3.59
MN	12.60	3.75	14.60	3.72	15.00	3.70
NM	10.80	3.51	14.50	3.56	13.80	3.55
NY	11.50	3.76	16.10	3.73	15.30	3.72
PA	13.00	3.75	17.00	3.70	16.20	3.65
TX	12.10	3.69	15.80	3.75	15.00	3.70
US	11.80	3.69	14.80	3.68	14.60	3.65
WI utilization						
Grade A milk	12.20	3.73	14.70	3.67	XXX	XXX
Grade B milk	11.20	3.94	13.20	3.85	XXX	XXX

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. All milk price published by NASS reflects the gross milk price received by farmers. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

Cold Storage Stocks, United States

Commodity	March 31, 2009	February 28, 2010	March 31, 2010	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
CHEESE				
American	548,568	598,104	600,754	+10
Swiss	23,235	27,379	26,957	+16
Other natural	343,386	360,174	373,067	+9
Total	915,189	985,657	1,000,778	+9
BUTTER	212,477	203,235	196,585	-7
FROZEN				
Beef	425,878	404,505	390,524	-8
Pork	594,127	515,911	510,482	-14
Chicken	635,475	627,816	619,850	-2
Turkey	513,384	342,418	379,135	-26

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

Record Commercial Red Meat Production in March

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.28 billion pounds in March, up 3 percent from the 4.14 billion pounds produced in March 2009.



Beef production, at 2.21 billion pounds, was 3 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.91 million head, up 7 percent from March 2009. The average live weight was down 32 pounds from the previous year, at 1,273 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.2 million pounds, slightly below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 79,800 head, up slightly from March 2009. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from last year, at 259 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.04 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.0 million head, up 4 percent from March 2009. The average live weight was unchanged from the previous year, at 272 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 17.6 million pounds, was up 11 percent from March 2009. Sheep slaughter totaled 262,300 head, 18 percent above last year. The average live weight was 135 pounds, down 8 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2010 commercial red meat production was 11.9 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2009. Accumulated beef production was up slightly from last year, veal was down 2 percent, pork was down 4 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

March 2009 contained 22 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays. March 2010 contained 23 weekdays (including no holidays) and 4 Saturdays.

Commercial Red Meat Production, United States 1/

Type	Mar. 2009	Feb. 2010	Mar. 2010	Jan - Mar. 2/		Change from last year
				2009	2010	
	Million pounds					Percent
Beef	2,144	1,956	2,212	6,248	6,251	n.c.
Veal	12	11	12	35	35	-2
Pork	1,970	1,757	2,040	5,814	5,607	-4
Lamb & mutton	16	12	18	42	43	+2
Total red meat 3/	4,142	*3736	4,282	12,139	11,936	-2

*Revised. 1/Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter. 2/Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data. 3/Totals may not equal sum of the parts due to rounding. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

Commercial Slaughter 1/, March 2010

Species	Wisconsin	Change from last year	U. S.	Change from last year
	1,000 hd	Percent	1,000 hd	Percent
Cattle, all	150.4	+11	2,912.7	+7
Calves	8.8	2/	79.8	n.c.
Hogs, all	46.5	+3	10,030.5	+4
Sheep and lambs	0.8	+33	262.3	+18

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Data not published to avoid disclosing individual operations. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

Livestock Slaughter - 2009

Red meat production for the United States totaled 49.4 billion pounds in 2009, 2 percent lower than the previous year. Red meat includes beef, veal, pork, and lamb and mutton. Red meat production in commercial plants totaled 49.3 billion pounds. On-farm production totaled 139 million pounds.

There were 834 slaughtering plants under federal inspection on January 1, 2010, compared with 818 last year.

Commercial Slaughter 1/, 2009

Species	Wisconsin	Change from 2008	U.S.	Change from 2008
	1,000 hd	Percent	1,000 hd	Percent
Cattle, all	1,681.3	-2	33,338.2	-3
Calves 2/	-	-	944.2	-1
Hogs, all	525.4	-16	113,618.1	-2
Sheep and lambs	10.1	-25	2,515.9	-2

1/Excludes farm slaughter. 2/Data not printed to avoid disclosing individual operations. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

Prices Received by Farmers

Prices in Wisconsin for corn, soybeans, oats, milk, potatoes, alfalfa hay, and other hay are expected to decrease from March to April. On the other hand, prices for steers and heifers, beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter, and calves are expected to increase during the same period.

As of mid-April, the average price Wisconsin farmers received for corn was \$3.38 per bushel, 18 cents below March and 45 cents below April 2009. Nationwide, corn prices averaged \$3.51 per bushel in mid-April, down 34 cents from April of last year.

Wisconsin soybeans decreased 3 cents per bushel from March, for an average of \$9.30 per bushel in mid-April. This is 36 cents below April of last year. U.S. soybeans sold for \$9.48 per bushel in mid-April, down 31 cents from April 2009.

Oat prices in Wisconsin averaged \$1.82 per bushel in mid-April, down 17 cents from March and 39 cents from April 2009. Nationally, oat prices were \$2.04 per bushel, down 33 cents from the April 2009 price of \$2.37 per bushel.

As of mid-April, alfalfa hay in Wisconsin sold for an average price of \$115.00 per ton, down \$5.00 from March. The average price for other hay types, at \$85.00 per ton, is also down \$5.00 from March.

Wisconsin steer and heifer prices averaged \$89.30 per hundredweight (cwt.) in mid-April, \$4.60 above March. Prices for beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter increased \$4.30 per cwt. from March to \$56.10 in mid-April. Calf prices in mid-April were \$143.00 per cwt., up \$5.00 from March.

At the U.S. level, steer and heifer prices in mid-April were \$12.70 per cwt. above April 2009, at \$101.00. Prices for beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter, at an average of \$56.90 per cwt., were up \$8.90 from April of last year. Calf prices, at \$121.00 per cwt., were up \$12.00 from April 2009.

Wheat, barley, and hog monthly prices are not published separately for Wisconsin, but nationally, all wheat sold for \$4.69 per bushel in mid-April, a \$1.06 decrease from April 2009. U.S. winter wheat prices decreased 93 cents from April of last year, averaging \$4.33 per bushel. Nationwide, barley sold for \$3.63 per bushel, \$1.21 below April 2009. Hog prices averaged \$53.60 per cwt., up \$9.60 from April of last year.

Prices Received

Commodity	Unit	Wisconsin			U.S.	
		April 2009	March 2010	Apr. 15, 2010	April 2009	Apr. 15, 2010
		Dollars			Dollars	
Milk cows 1/	Head	1,420.00	-	1,450.00	1,390.00	1,330.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	80.00	84.70	89.30	88.30	101.00
Cows 2/	Cwt.	46.10	51.80	56.10	48.00	56.90
Calves	Cwt.	134.00	138.00	143.00	109.00	121.00
Milk, all	Cwt.	12.40	14.70	14.60	11.90	14.60
Corn	Bu.	3.83	3.56	3.38	3.85	3.51
Oats	Bu.	2.21	1.99	1.82	2.37	2.04
Soybeans	Bu.	9.66	9.33	9.30	9.79	9.48
Potatoes, all 3/ 4/	Cwt.	11.30	9.75	9.70	9.81	7.59
Fresh	Cwt.	9.95	5.20	-	11.98	-
Processing	Cwt.	10.10	11.30	-	7.61	-
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	100.00	120.00	115.00	131.00	113.00
Other hay, baled	Ton	70.00	90.00	85.00	114.00	99.30
Wheat, all 5/	Bu.	-	-	-	5.75	4.69
Winter Wheat, all	Bu.	-	-	-	5.26	4.33
Barley, all 5/	Bu.	-	-	-	4.84	3.63
Dry Edible Beans 5/	Cwt.	-	-	-	31.50	31.30
Apples, fresh use 5/	Lb.	-	-	-	0.20	0.30
Hogs, all 5/	Cwt.	-	-	-	44.00	53.60

1/Milk cow prices are published quarterly for January, April, July, and October.
2/Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter. 3/Entire month. 4/Average price of potatoes sold for all uses, including table stock, processing, seed, and livestock feed. 5/Mid-month. Monthly estimates for wheat, barley, dry beans, apples, and hogs are not published for Wisconsin. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO

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